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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of) Group Art Unit:
Anthony Steven Weiss)
Appln. No.)
Filed: Herewith)
For: PROTEASE SUSCEPTIBILITY II) January 16, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

In the Specification

Please renumber original Abstract page "108" to -- 76 --.

In the Claims

Amend claims 1, 42, and 81 as follows.

1. (Amended) A method for reducing or eliminating the susceptibility of a tropoelastin to proteolysis comprising mutating a sub-sequence in the tropoelastin so that the susceptibility of the tropoelastin to proteolysis is reduced or eliminated.

42. (Amended) A method for enhancing the susceptibility of a tropoelastin to proteolysis comprising inserting a sub-sequence into the tropoelastin so that the susceptibility of the tropoelastin to proteolysis is enhanced.

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